Page 23, line 3, after "reconstruction" insert --within the unit time--;

line 6, delete "will" insert --can--;

line 8, delete "the" (first occurrence) insert --a--, delete "given" insert --used--.

Page 24, line 1, delete "a room of the" insert --the remaining--;

line 7, delete in its entirety insert --time taken to reconstruct the faulty data--;

line 8, delete "sing time";

line 9, delete "the" insert --a--;

line 12, after "tion" insert --within the unit time--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-17 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof.

Please add new claims 18-29 as follows:

--18.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a

corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data;

wherein the controller determines a degree of preference to be given to the processing of reconstructing data.

19.   An apparatus for storing data according to claim 18, wherein the controller determines the degree of preference based on a predetermined limit time.

20.   An apparatus for storing data according to claim 19, wherein the controller performs the processing of reconstructing data according to the degree of preference.

21.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller determines whether to give preference to the processing of reconstructing data or to the processing of data read/write requests, and performs the

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processing to which preference is given based on a
predetermined limit time.

22.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality
of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each
of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of
reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in
which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a
corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error
correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests
from a host;

wherein the controller controls a ratio of an amount
of the processing of reconstructing data to an amount of the
processing of data read/write requests, and performs a
processing according to the ratio based on a predetermined
limit time.

23.   An apparatus for storing data according to claim 22,
wherein the controller controls a ratio of an amount of the
processing of reconstructing data per unit time to an amount
of the processing of data read/write requests per unit time,
and performs a processing according to the ratio based on a
predetermined limit time.

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24.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller controls a ratio of an amount of time for the processing of reconstructing data to an amount of time for the processing of data read/write requests, and performs a processing according to the ratio based on a predetermined limit time.

25.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

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wherein the controller controls an amount of time for the processing of reconstructing data based on a predetermined limit time.

26. An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller controls an amount of the processing of reconstructing data based on a predetermined limit time.

27. An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error

correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller determines an amount of performing the processing of reconstructing data instead of the processing of data read/write requests such that the processing of reconstructing data is completed within a fixed time.

28.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and

a controller for performing processing of reconstructing data stored in any of the storage units in which a fault has occurred based on all other data of a corresponding one of the data groups and corresponding error correcting data, and processing of data read/write requests from a host;

wherein the controller performs the processing of reconstructing data in preference to the processing of data read/write requests such that the processing of reconstructing data is completed within a fixed time.

29.   An apparatus for storing data comprising:

a plurality of storage units for storing a plurality of data groups and error correcting data corresponding to each of the data groups; and